# Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CPR-01 L-03 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 /050 W

-----011843Z 024592 /46

R 011440Z JUN 77 FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8110 INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 7699

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, CSCE, OTRA, UR, US SUBJECT: EMBASSY TRAVEL - MAY

REFS: A. MOSCOW 6660, B. MOSCOW 6412, C. MOSCOW 7113, D. MOSCOW 7406, E. MOSCOW 7010, F. MOSCOW 6011

1. SUMMARY. EMBASSY TRAVEL CONDITIONS DETERIORATED
SHARPLY DURING MAY WITH SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN TRAVEL
REFUSED FOR "REASONS OF A TEMPORARY NATURE" OR CANCELLED
BECAUSE OF AN UNAVAILABILITY OF HOTEL ROOMS OR PLANE/
TRAIN TICKETS (15 TRAVEL NOTES WITH 37 DESTINATIONS REFUSED
OR ALTERED IN MAY COMPARED TO 6 REQUESTS WITH 13
REFUSALS OR ALTERNATIONS IN APRIL--REF A). MFA ROUTINELY
CONTINUES TO REFUSE CLOSED-AREA EXCEPTION REQUESTS. END SUMMARY.

2. EMBASSY TRAVEL STATISTICS FOR MAY 1977 FOLLOW:

SELF REFUSED

REQUESTS DESTINATIONS TRAVELERS CANCELLED ALTERED

97 203 154 10 15

EXCEPTIONS REQUESTED: 24 HOUR 48 HOUR CLOSED AREA LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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5 0 7

EXCEPTIONS DENIED:
24 HOUR 48 HOUR CLOSED AREA
2 0 7

3. EMBASSY SUBMITTED FOUR NOTES FOR TEN SOVIET

#### EMPLOYEES TO TRAVEL TO FIVE DESTINATIONS.

4. FIFTEEN TRAVEL REQUESTS REFUSED OR ALTERED WERE: TWO REQUESTS DATED MAY 3 AND 5 FOR WIFE OF FIRST SECRETARY PRESEL TO VISIT ASHKHABAD, SAMARKAND, BUKHARA AND UGENC DENIED FOR "ROTN" (REF B); TWO REQUESTS DATED MAY 20 AND 24 FOR FIRST SECRETARY PRESEL TO TRAVEL TO LENINGRAD DENIED FOR "ROTN" (REFS C AND D); REQUEST DATED MAY 16 FOR FIRST SECRETARY STARBIRD TO ACCOMPANY SCIDEL TO ABAKAN. SAYANOGORSK, KRASNOYARSK (CLOSED AREA EXCEPTION REQUESTED) AND DIVNOGORSK DENIED AS "ENTIRE RAYON IS A CLOSED AREA AND AN EXCEPTION CANNOT BE MADE", (SEE REF E); REQUEST DATED APRIL 26 FOR ASSISTANT AGRICULTURAL ATTACHE ANLAUF TO TRAVEL MOSCOW/KIEV/VINNITSA/CHERNOVTSY/KISHINEV/ODESSA/ KIEV/MOSCOW ALTERED TO MOSCOW/KIEV/CHERNOVTSY/KIEV/MOSCOW ONLY WITH OTHERS DENIED FOR "ROTN" (REF F); REQUEST DATED MAY 4 BY EMBOFFS SNYDER AND FORD TO TRAVEL MAY 10 TO YAKUTSK/IRKUTSK/NIZHNIY/ANGARSK/NOVOSIBIRSK CANCELLED AS CLOSED-AREA EXCEPTION FOR NIZHNIY ANGARSK DENIED AND NO PLANE/TRAIN TICKETS AVAILABLE FOR OTHER STOPS: REOUEST MAY 6 BY EMBOFFS FORD AND SNYDER TO TRAVEL MAY 11 TO NOVOSIBIRSK/ULAN UDE/IRKUTSK/BRATSK/TULUN CANCELLED AS TULUN CLOSED FOR "ROTN", TRAIN IRKUTSK/NOVOSIBIRSK REFUSED "ROTN", PLANE BRATSK/NOVOSIBIRSK REFUSED "ROTN" AND NO PLANE/TRAIN TICKETS AVAILABLE MOSCOW/NOVOSIBIRSK/ ULAN UDE; REQUEST DATED MAY 11 FOR EMBOFFS SNYDER AND FORD TO TRAVEL MAY 16 MOSCOW/ULAN UDE/IRKUTSK/MOSCOW CANCELLED AS NO PLANE/TRAIN TICKETS OR HOTEL ROOMS AVAILABLE; CLOSED-AREA EXCEPTION DATED MAY 25 REQUESTED FOR WIFE OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SECOND SECRETARY NAPPER TO VISIT GZHEL' IN MOSCOW OLBAST REFUSED; TWO REQUESTS DATED MAY 5 BY MINISTER-COUNSELOR AND MRS. MATLOCK AND MRS. GROSS AND BY P&C COUNSELOR AND MRS. BENSON AND SON TO VISIT MELIKHOVO AND CHEKHOV IN MOSCOW OBLAST DENIED AS CLOSED-AREAS AND "AN EXCEPTIN IS NOT POSSIBLE" (EXCEPTIONS REQUESTED BY PHONE); REQUEST DATED MAY 25 FOR SECOND SECRETARIES LEMMON AND HUGHES TO VISIT CENTRAL ASIA ALTERED AS TRAIN TRAVEL SAMARKAND/ BUKHARA DENIED AND AEROFLOT REFUSED TO SELL TICKETS TASHKENT/KABUL/TASHKENT; REQUEST BY TDY EMPLOYEE FISCHER TO TRAVEL TO KIEV REFUSED MAY 11 BECAUSE OF LATE DELIVERY OF TRAVEL NOTE AND TELEPHONIC REQUEST FOR 24-HOUR EXCEPTION DENIED; REQUEST BY MSG PEARCE DATED MAY 27 FOR MAY 28 NIGHT TRAIN TO LENINGRAD REFUSED BE-CAUSE OF LATE DELIVERY OF TRAVEL NOTE AND TELEPHONIC REQUEST FOR 24-HOUR EXCEPTION DENIED EVEN THOUGH TRAVEL OFFICER STRESSED URGENCY OF THIS TRIP.

5. CLOSED-AREA REQUESTS DENIED ARE: GZHEL AND MELIKHOVO

(2), CHEKHOV (2), NIZHNIY ANGARSK AND KRASNOYARSK.

6. EMBASSY HAS EXPERIENCED, IN ADDITION TO TRAVEL REFUSALS AND ALTERATIONS LISTED PARA 4, A SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN TRIP CANCELLATIONS BECAUSE OF AN UNAVAILABILITY OF HOTEL RESERVATIONS OR PLANE/TRAIN TICKETS. (FYI. EMBASSY CONSIDERS "UNAVAILABILITY" OF PLANE/TRAIN TICKETS OR HOTEL SPACE FOR FORD/SNYDER SIBERIA TRAVEL AS DELIBERATE TRAVEL OBSTRUCTION. END FYI.) THIS OCCURS IN SPITE OF NORMAL EMBASSY COMPLIANCE WITH UPDK'S THREE-WORKING DAYS NOTICE REQUIREMENT FOR RESERVATION REQUESTS WHICH SERVES AS A SUPPLEMENTARY TRAVEL NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE.

7. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS APPROPRIATE WASHINGTON RETALIATION FOR THOSE DENIALS FOR WHICH RETALIATION NOT YET MADE.

8. EMBASSY REQUESTS THAT THE DEPARTMENT CONSIDER APPROPRIATE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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QUID PRO QUO FOR UPDK REQUIREMENT OF THREE WORKING DAYS NOTICE FOR RESERVATIONS.

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## Message Attributes

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